

**Author: John E. Fetzer**

**Date: 1988-06-27**

**Category: JEF Speeches and Articles**

### **Institute Status Dictation**

6/27/88

Page 1

The purpose of this is to address the operation of the Foundation when we undertake to comply with the institute status.

First,, let me say that I do not fear dropping the name of Foundation from our corporate status. I think the name John E. Fetzer Foundation has become now quite fixed in the memory of far too many people to abandon the word Foundation. Instead, I prefer to have it known as the Fetzer Foundation and Institute. Actually, what will happen on a practical basis is that the Institute will be a division of the Fetzer Foundation. As a typical example, the Menninger Foundation has long been operating under that title. In fact, it is a medical institute and, as a result, it has not handicapped them in the operation under such an arrangement.

Our Foundation should continue to carry forward the precise purpose that we have always indicated, and that is to be primarily a research organization. We should not only do hardline research, but we also have to do other modes of approach to this subject which are more or less done off the record. In this connection I would like to, once again, call attention to the fact that we need to go after individual experimentors to see what is

out there. Out of all of it, if we would succeed in finding a relatively few good items to bring to a laboratory of our own to research, I think it would be of immense value. There is no reason why we could not, even though we are going through the throws of converting to the education context, set aside a definite fund of two or three hundred thousand dollars to do this kind of research. We should study ways and means to accomplish this and carry forward the principle purpose of the Foundations activity. If in the future we desire to expand into a large education operation, either in connection with our schools and colleges or under computerization and become a college campus, that is fine, but we should not invade our present endowment any more than is necessary to establish such an operation. If it is to become a permanent part of our operation then we should seek additional funds to carry on that activity. Once we have the freedom to become an educational institution, so to speak, we can use that as a means to an end and not an end itself. We can carry on our research without any restrictions what-so-ever as an educational institution.

The purpose of this is to emphasize the fact that I do not wish to alter the original purpose of the Foundation and get involved in so many different programs and projects in so many different directions, that we cannot make the kind of dent on society as we wish to do. I think we have to become a world organization and principally do the research and to carry on those things that will forward fundamental betterment of individuals on the face of the globe on a medical basis.

I think the world conference we have just had has been magnificent. I think it has brought together a lot of fine minds and these people can be mobilized into a great deal of action. I believe it requires a great deal of study and thoughtful prayer toward the solution of our

own association with it, the direction we should go in our networking process, what we should do and what we should not do.